Rarick Makes Gangsterism Issue in Race

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BATON ROUGE (AP)—U.S. Rep. John R. Rarick, a candidate for governor, today made the Life magazine article on gangsterism in Louisiana an issue in the governor's race.

"I sat aghast and watched with many other Louisianians as our 'poor governor' tried to wiggle and squirm out of the Carlos Marcellos' come-along he had in his nose," Rarick said in a statement.

"And, of course, he reassured all the people on one day that there was no gangsterism in our state, yet on the very next day, he turned around and appointed another one of his now infamous non-elected committees to investigate gangsterism."

The Life article said criminal elements in Louisiana influence officials at all levels of government.

McKeithen has hotly denied the charges, accusing Life of deliberately smearing the state. He said there is no organized crime in state government but ordered an investigation.